

FOREIGN NEWS.

SPAIN.
OPENING OF THE CORTES—SPEECH OF SERRANO.
MADRID, Feb. 12.—The Constituent Cortes
officially opened its session here yesterday
with great ceremony. The city was pro-

gloriously decorated in honor of the events. Crowds of people were in the streets, flags were flying, and the day was regarded as a holiday. The President of the Ministry, Marshal Serrano, delivered a congratulatory address on the assembling of the deputies. He said that the nations of Europe in obtaining a higher degree of civilization, threw off the traditional bonds which fettered the public mind, and paid delayed for a long time following the example of her neighbors. She now calls on her representatives to construct a new edifice. The revolution has achieved a bloodless victory. The strength of the nation has not been impaired, but the extravagance of former administrations has disorganized and embarrassed its finances. The Government relies upon the Cortes to remedy this by economical reforms and changes in the administration, by wise legislation in regard to the public debt and the payment of the interest thereon, and by economizing the expenses of the army and navy. The fundamental principles of rational liberalism which had been adopted in relation to religion, the press, and education by the Provisional Government must now be consolidated by the action of the deputies. Our revolution here is not responsible for the rising in Cuba. That is due to the errors of past governments. He expressed the hope that the insurrection there would be speedily extinguished, and that tranquility based on reform would be durable. He predicted that Slavery would be abolished without precipitation and without compromising the prosperity of the Antilles. In conclu-

nations with foreign nations, now more intimate than ever before.

GREAT CONFUSION DURING SERRANO'S SPEECH.
At the opening of the Cortes the Marquis of Santa Cruz presided, and a salute of 21 guns was fired. During Marquis Serrano's speech there were vivas for the Provisional Government or Gen. Prim, for a republic, and for monarchy. The confusion was great, but was finally quelled by Serrano's crying, "Viva for the Sovereignty of the Cortes." A grand review of the troops was held subsequently, and the members of the Cortes attended a Te-Deum in the Basilica of Our Lady of Atocha.

FRANCE.

THE BANK OF FRANCE.

PARIS, Feb. 12.—The regular weekly statement of the condition of the Bank of France is officially published to-day. There has been a heavy inward flow of specie, and the amount in vault is 14,000,000 francs greater than last week.

GREAT BRITAIN.

MR. GLADSTONE'S SPEECH.

LONDON, Feb. 12.—At the banquet to the Ministry at Fishmonger's Hall last evening, Mr. Gladstone remarked that the last House of Commons had been condemned by the Government of the day. That Government had been brought to the bar of public opinion on a distinct issue, and the policy of the people was now most clearly defined.

MR. GRAVES ON THE ALABAMA TREATY.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 12.—A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool was held to-day to hear an address from Mr. Graves, Conservative member of Parliament from this city. Mr. Graves expressed the belief that the treaty negotiated with the American minister for the settlement of the Alabama claims was sure to be ratified by the United States Senate. He said the American claims were made with a dignity

maintained with a forbearance that were fully appreciated by England. She had in consequence met the advance of the United States more than half way, and receded from principles which had been regarded as fundamental to the British Constitution. In the result of such conduct, said Mr. Graves, forbids that party politics shall in any degree interfere with the honorable arrangements which have been made between the two countries.

**MONSTER PETITION FOR THE IMPRISONED
FENIANS.**

DUBLIN, Feb. 12.—The Mayor of Dublin will take advantage of the first public levee to present Queen Victoria the monster petition for the amnesty of the Fenian prisoners, which has been so extensively signed by the corporate authorities of towns and cities throughout Ireland.

THE RAP RAST

WAR IMMINENT BETWEEN TURKEY AND PERSIA.
LONDON, Feb. 12.—Advices received to-day state that the Persian army, with the Shah at its head, has one to Bagdad. In the mean time the Turkish troops are pushing forward to the Persian frontier.

THE ASSASSINATION OF THE CIVIL GOVERNOR OF BURGOS.
Under date of Jan. 27, the correspondent of the *London Times* writes from Madrid: "In the morning of Jan. 25, yesterday, the Civil Governor of Aragon, Don Antonio de Azcoy, a subaltern functionary, the Secretary of Gobierno, or Provincial Secretary, and by one of the chief officers of police, proceeded to the Cathedral

to the Plaza del Arzobispo, but does not seem to have met with any hindrance or molestation. At the door of the church he was received by three cannons and the Dean, who, upon entering, conducted him to the Archive. As soon as the Governor had crossed the threshold of the church the doors were closed, and a picket of Civil Guards surrounded the entrance. The officers of this force, writes to his superior that the voice of the Archbishop was heard to cry for help, and that one of the bells from the steeple sounded the alarm. The Governor then ordered the Archdeacon to resign, went round the building and forced a way both into the church and the cloister. The cries of the multitude were *Muera el Gobierno*. The Archbishop, who was in the church, and the Governor, who was in the cloister, were separated by the barriers, the former was yelling from the door of the church which led into the cloister, and the latter was shouting from the door of the cloister which opened on to the street. The Governor asked the people wanted; but these closed

...rood him, w/ their daggers in *carbabinos* (a pun on *Carli*). He felt, he was seen to strive to rise, but was thrown again overpowered and, this time, struggled for the possession of those bloody fathers as trophies, and cut even the limbs to pieces, "like famished wolves". They then threw them a red cloth, and he stepped back, and then, "like the steps, and, through the cloister, to the square before the Cathedral, where they were fallen upon by the public force which dispersed them. The population had a share in the crime." The town was immediately declared in a state of siege. Four of the Canons, the Dean, and other priests, with the Archbishop, Don Anastasio Rodrigo Justo, was submitted to an Interrogatory. The Cathedral was closed, and will not be reopened for public worship until the 15th of October, when, I wrote Rev. Fr. Juan de Hilarión Sotelo, who, as I wrote Rev.

day, had "miserably" escaped," had been saved by the Cavese. I fear nothing further respecting the police inspector who was reported wounded.

CUBA.

PROGRESS OF THE INSURRECTION—IMPORTANT ADMISSION OF THE SPANISH PAPERS.

HAVANA, Feb. 12.—A small Spanish schooner, which had cleared for New-York, was seized to-day by the authorities on suspicion of having arms and supplies for the rebels on board. Her cargo was overhauled and nothing was found to confirm the suppositions of the officials. The mixed commission appointed by the Spaniards and merchants to raise funds for the Government have resolved to recommend the following plan: The Spanish Bank is to furnish a loan of \$500,000 to the Treasury; the Government to provide for

payment for each box of sugar imported, 50¢ on each pound of unmanufactured tobacco, and 50 cents on every thousand of cigars, five per cent on the value of all other goods. The tax is levied by the Government and is in addition to the taxes now paid by merchants and manufacturers.

The *Diario* admits that the Government holds positions in the city of Pinar del Rio, the principal district except the city proper. Several secret deposits of arms have been discovered at Cardenas.

Information from the Consular Department is received either through Governmental or other channels. It is known, however, that the rebels have made the town of Menisacavaca a base for their operations.

Arrests of suspected parties continue to be made; several Americans and other foreigners are among the parties arrested. The American Consul at Havana, Mr. Shaw, is on the island, was arrested, but subsequently released. It is reported that he has offered to Captain-General Dulce to act as interpreter between the Government and the supporters of the revolution.

Prominent Cubans continue to emigrate from the island in large numbers. A portion of the passengers in the steamer *Albatros*, which sailed from Havana for New

randee, in the Colon district. The sugar market is advancing on account of the scarcity of stock; No. 12 D. S. quoted at 21 1/2 reals per arroba. Muscovadoes are quoyant; fair to good Refining, 8 1/2 reals. Exchange on London, 16 1/4 per cent premium; on the United States, 4 days sight, in currency, 23 1/2 per cent discount; short sight, 20 1/2 per cent discount; 60 days, in gold, 5 1/2 per cent premium; short sight, 7 1/2 per cent premium.